

HCR125 / HR77

Testimony

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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND COST OF CONSTRUCTING A SMALL  
COMMERCIAL BOAT HARBOR AND SMALL COMMERCIAL AIRPORT IN  
SOUTH PUNA.

1 WHEREAS, Puna, on the Island of Hawaii, is an incredibly  
2 large district that is approximately the same size as the island  
3 of Kauai; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, Puna has the fastest growing population in the  
6 County of Hawaii; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, Puna, located near the Hawaii Volcanoes National  
9 Park, is a popular tourist attraction and destination for  
10 ecotourism and personal development opportunities; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, many people in Puna will be cut off from supplies  
13 and services as a result of the lava threatening to cross  
14 Highway 130; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, in the Puna area, there are very few places to  
17 access the coast safely due to the jagged cliffs, and road  
18 infrastructure cannot be developed due to the extensive network  
19 of lava tubes; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, the Puna coast has the Pohoiki boat ramp, however,  
22 the ramp is not large enough to support commercial activity; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, Hilo Harbor is the closest commercial harbor to  
25 Puna; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, the closest commercial airport to Puna is Hilo  
28 Airport, a roundtrip that takes approximately six to eight hours  
29 to complete; and  
30



## H.C.R. NO. 125

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Harbors Division,  
 2 is responsible for the planning, design, construction,  
 3 operation, and maintenance of state facilities for all modes of  
 4 water transportation; and

5  
 6 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Airports  
 7 Division, is responsible for the development, management, and  
 8 maintenance of the State's global air transportation  
 9 organization; now, therefore,

10  
 11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 12 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 13 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
 14 Transportation is requested to conduct a study regarding the  
 15 feasibility and cost of constructing a small commercial boat  
 16 harbor and small commercial airport in south Puna; and

17  
 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
 19 Transportation report its findings and recommendations,  
 20 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 21 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
 22 of 2016; and

23  
 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
 25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
 26 Transportation.

27  
 28  
 29 OFFERED BY:

*Chas. Fung*

*Proch*

*Mark J. Hash*

*Cindy Evans*

*John M. ...*

*Nicole E. Lower*

*State*



# H.C.R. NO. 125

Jakobi Bm — Mr  
1000 Bm  
Linda L. Kingma  
2000 Bm  
GM Fm  
Gram w/Chay  
Alle, A. Belotti  
L. H.  
Kal Muech  
Bund Kolyan  
Amf Ju  
Bial

MAR 13 2015



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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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28 Airport, a roundtrip that takes approximately six to eight hours  
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31 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Harbors Division,  
32 is responsible for the planning, design, construction,  
33 operation, and maintenance of state facilities for all modes of  
34 water transportation; and



## H.R. NO. 17

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Airports Division, is responsible for the development, management, and maintenance of the State's global air transportation organization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the Department of Transportation is requested to conduct a study regarding the feasibility and cost of constructing a small commercial boat harbor and small commercial airport in south Puna; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation.

OFFERED BY:

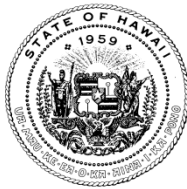
# H.R. NO. 77

James  
Tom Brown  
Lindal Higgins  
Ryan  
W. A. -  
W. A. -  
Sam Welch  
K. A.  
Kel Throck  
B. K. K. K.  
Jan. J. J.

MAR 13 2015



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



LATE

Testimony of  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
(808) 587-1965

March 25, 2015  
10:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 309

**H.C.R. 125 / H.R. 77**  
**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY**  
**REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND COST OF CONSTRUCTING A SMALL**  
**COMMERCIAL BOAT HARBOR AND SMALL COMMERCIAL AIRPORT IN SOUTH**  
**PUNA.**

House Committee on Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) recognizes the hardships and challenges faced by our Puna community. However, we are unable to support these resolutions.

DOT Harbors does not have available resources in the current budget to carry out the study requested in the resolution. We can, however, estimate prospective costs of a South Puna harbor facility based on the Hilo Harbor's new Pier 4 Cargo Terminal project which is already underway. This facility, located in an established harbor, is estimated to take eight years of planning, design, and construction work, and cost over \$60 million.

Further, the development of a harbor at South Puna must be initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as it has federally funded programs to design, construct, and maintain the basin, channel, and breakwater navigational improvements. This requires a separate USACE feasibility study, preceded by a Reconnaissance Study. The Reconnaissance Study takes one year to complete and validates the federal project interest before proceeding. Due to the U.S. Congressional budget cycle, the soonest possible start date for the USACE feasibility study is 2018. Further, the estimated cost of the study is \$3 million and will require a three-year timeline. The State of Hawaii's share of the USACE study would be estimated at \$1.5 million, plus the costs for the study for water and landside improvements outside of the designated federal project limit, and in addition to the state-authorized feasibility study.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.